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MONTANA EMPLOYMENT AND LABOR FORCE
MONTHLY REPORT

APRIL 1975

STATE OF MONTANA

THOMAS L. JUDGE, GOVERNOR

Published by the Montana Employment Service
EMPLOYMENT SECURITY DIVISION
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND INDUSTRY
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Volume 5 Number 4

Produced by:
E.S. Research & Analysis
in cooperation with the
U.S. Department of Labor
Manpower Administration and
Bureau of Labor Statistics

1. Civilian Labor Force - the number of persons 16 years and older, defined as employed or unemployed, excluding members of the Armed Forces.
2. Employed - those persons who work for pay or profit during a week or, as unpaid family workers, work 15 hours or more during a week. Also included as employed are those who, although not working, had some job attachment and were not looking for work, including persons temporarily absent from a job due to illness, bad weather, vacation, or labor-management dispute, whether or not they were in a pay status during their time off.
3. Unemployment - the number of persons who, for an entire week, did not work at all, were able to work and available for work, and (1) were looking for work or (2) would have looked for work except that (a) they were waiting to return to a job from which they had been laid off, or (b) they were waiting to report to a new wage and salary job scheduled to start within the following 30 days (and were not in school during the week).
4. Unemployment Rate - the number of unemployed expressed as a percent of the civilian labor force.
5. Residence Data - a count of employment by where people live.
6. Establishment Data - a count of employment by where people work.
7. Seasonally Adjusted Labor Force Series - to facilitate the evaluation of the labor force, recurrent yearly movements have been isolated and removed by the Bureau of Labor Statistics seasonal factor method.
8. Composite Index - an aggregate of six leading indicators. The indicators used are: Manufacturing - Employment, Average Weekly Hours, total Accessions and Layoffs; Average Weekly Initial Claims; and statewide Building Permits. A reverse trend was used for Layoffs and Average Weekly Initial Claims. This composite index is in no manner or form comparable to the United States composite index as published in "Business Conditions Digest", U. S. Department of Commerce.
9. Real Spendable Average Weekly Earnings of Private Nonagricultural Production Workers - represents the earnings of a hypothetical individual after deductions for State Income, Federal Income and Social Security taxes, and adjustment for change in purchasing power since 1967. This individual is assumed to be sole support for a family of four, earn the average weekly gross earnings of production workers in Montana's private nonagricultural industries, and take standard deductions on State and Federal income taxes. Taxes were computed using standard tax tables, and purchasing power was adjusted by deflating Spendable Earnings based on the national Consumer Price Index.
10. WIN - Work Incentive Program for Aid to Dependent Children recipients.
11. CETA - Comprehensive Employment and Training Act of 1974.
12. CETA-CEP - Concentrated Employment Program funded under the Comprehensive Employment and Training Act.
13. SMSA - Standard Metropolitan Statistical Area as determined by Office of Management and Budget. Must have a central city with population of 50,000 or more.
14. LMA - Labor Market Area as determined by the Montana Employment Security Division consists of a central city or cities with population of less than 50,000, and the economically integrated geographical area surrounding it.

NOTE: Series Change

Beginning with the April 1975 release, all total unemployment and total unemployment rate estimates for the State and all areas have been revised - including seasonally adjusted series - and are not comparable with data published earlier. The Montana State Employment Security Agency, like all State Employment Security Agencies, is revising its total unemployment and total unemployment rate estimates to reflect new data on persons entering and re-entering the labor force. The old series was based on relationships that existed in the early 1960's. Over the intervening decade these relationships have shifted as a result of institutional changes such as the earlier openings of schools in the fall and earlier closing in the spring, and demographic changes such as increased labor force participation of women. Historical series for State and Standard Metropolitan Statistical Areas - both raw and seasonally adjusted - back through 1970 are available upon request.

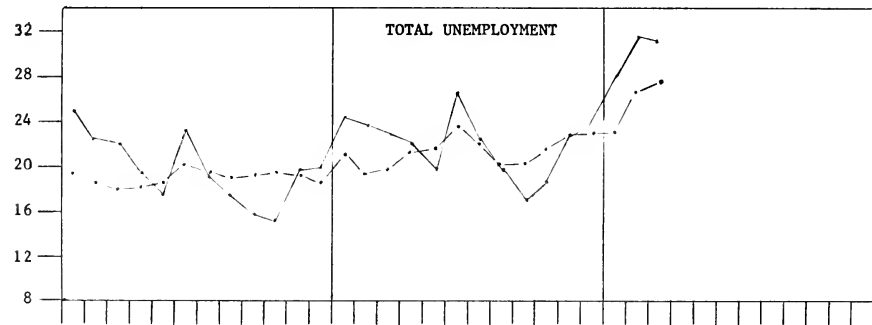
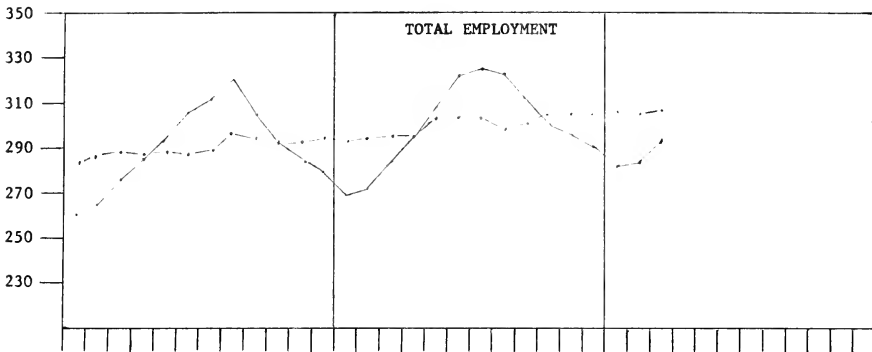
MONTANA EMPLOYMENT, UNEMPLOYMENT, AND UNEMPLOYMENT RATE

(NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED: —)

(SEASONALLY ADJUSTED: - - -)

(000's)

1973 - 1975



HIGHLIGHTS OF THE MONTANA LABOR MARKET

APRIL 1975



STATE OF MONTANA

Montana's civilian labor force for March was 326,300 an increase of 9,000 over the previous month and 18,100 more than last year for the same month. The March unemployment rate was 9.6%, a slight dip from the 10.0% recorded in February, but much higher than the 7.6% rate in March 1974. Total employment for the state was 295,000 compared with 285,600 last month and 284,800 one year ago. Total unemployed decreased by 400 from January while it increased 7,900 from last year.

Nonagricultural wage and salary total employment (establishment data) was 232.1 thousand compared with 230.1 thousand last month and 225.5 thousand last year. Manufacturing employment showed a drop of 400 from one month ago and a decrease of 1,100 from a year ago. The main factor in this drop from last year was noted in the lumber and woods industry, where there were 900 less employed, and a 400 decrease in the food and kindred products industry.

Nonmanufacturing employment was 209,800 in March compared with 207,400 in February, and 202,100 in March of last year. Industries showing increases from last year were: mining up 100; wholesale and retail trade up 2,500; services up 2,200; finance, insurance and real estate up 700; government up 5,300. Industries showing decreases were: contract construction down 2,700 and transportation and public utilities, down 400. All other nonagricultural employment (self-employed and unpaid family workers, and domestic workers in private households) for March was 29.8 thousand compared with 28.4 thousand the previous month and 28.9 thousand a year ago. There were 300 people involved in labor disputes throughout the state.

Agricultural employment for March was 35,100. By mid-April field work had not started on a volume capacity in Montana as the soil in most areas is too wet for equipment to operate. A summary of some 1974 agricultural activities that were down from 1973 is: cattle and calves on feed for slaughtering; wool production down 7%; milk production down 3%; gross income from egg production, and gross income for birds sold.

There were 148 building permits issued in Montana during the month of February with a total valuation of \$3.3 million. For the same month one year ago 262 permits were issued valued at almost \$8 million. Billings had the most permits issued during the month with 38 while Missoula issued 23, Great Falls 18, Helena 14, Bozeman 14, and Miles City 11.

Montana bank debits for February increased 27% over February one year ago and are up 28% for the first two months of the year. Communities showing increases over one year ago were Belt, Great Falls, Cut Bank, Glendive, Havre, Worden, Bozeman, Butte, Helena and Missoula.

The January production of crude oil in the state from the oil and gas areas averaged 89,278 barrels daily, a decrease of 2,478 barrels from the average production in December. Refineries in the state processed 137,715 barrels of crude oil daily for the

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE MONTANA LABOR MARKET (Cont.)

month of January, an increase of 1,424 barrels over the previous month. In January, 88 wells were completed and 43 permits were issued to drill new wells, which was a decrease from the 65 permits issued one year ago.

There were 152 new business firms in Montana in March, bringing this year's total to 617. A year ago there were 111 new businesses in March and 478 for the first 3 months. The state's two Standard Metropolitan Statistical Areas, Billings and Great Falls, had the highest total as Billings recorded 24 and Great Falls 23. New businesses in other labor market areas of the state were Anaconda-Butte LMA with 10, Bozeman LMA 14, Glasgow LMA 3, Glendive LMA 4, Hardin-Red Lodge LMA 8, Havre LMA 6, Helena LMA 6, Kalispell LMA 13, Lewistown LMA 4, Miles City LMA 10, Missoula LMA 22, and Shelby-Cut Bank LMA 5.

The labor turnover rates recorded in February in the manufacturing industry were down from January for accession and separation rates, while the mining industry recorded an increase in the accession rate from last month and a decrease in separations.

GREAT FALLS SMSA (Cascade County)



The valuation of total building permits issued in Great Falls in March was \$293,582, with residential permits amounting to \$203,420. Plans were

announced this month to build a \$4 to \$5 million facility for the elderly in the downtown area of Great Falls that will have from 200 to 225 units. The wholesale-retail and service industries in the area remained steady during the month, and preparation for filming of a television series began in the city. A new tractor manufacturing and distributing company opened recently in the city that will produce from 12 to 14 models a year. Bank debits for February in the Standard Metropolitan Statistical Area were up 8% from the same month one year ago. Belt bank debits increased 1% from a year ago, while Cascade recorded a 6% decrease. Bad weather conditions plagued the area with many operations being delayed until May. Over 60 plumbers went on strike the first of March with the dispute continuing through the month.

BILLINGS SMSA (Yellowstone County)



Thirty-eight building permits were issued in Billings in February with an estimated value of \$656,204, while at Laurel, 3 permits were issued with a total valuation of \$47,000.

Severe weather conditions curtailed most outdoor activity during the month. Major construction projects in the area included the new \$25 million Rimrock Mall, a major utility company's expansion and a branch office for a savings and loan association. The \$3.5 million manufacturing plant being built in Laurel will open in early July and will produce 200 sectional homes during the first year of operation, with a work force of nearly 150 people. Bank debits in the Billings Standard Metropolitan Statistical Area were down 1% from a year ago, but up 23% for the past 12 months. Over 100 persons were on strike in the area during the month in the plumbing trades and the construction industry. Cold weather during March and the beginning of April slowed agricultural activities. By April 16, calving and lambing were nearing completion.

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE MONTANA LABOR MARKET (Cont.)

ANACONDA-BUTTE LMA

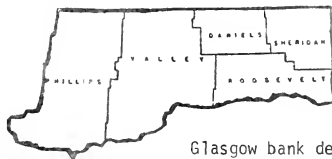


One of Montana's major utilities company will construct a new \$800,000 service center building bringing to more than \$1.25 million the value of construction in progress by the company in Butte. Ground was also broken in April on a new \$667,225 public safety building which is expected to be completed in 16

months. A \$620,000 street improvement project was recently approved. The city will receive \$150,000 in federal funds to add 50 workers to its payroll through June 30, 1975 to help mainly with spring cleanup around Butte. February bank debits in Butte were up 39% over the same month of 1974, while Anaconda dropped 9%. A \$2.7 million sewer treatment project will be constructed east of Warm Springs. In the lumber manufacturing industry, sawmills in Phillipsburg and Dillon reopened during the past month while another mill at Deer Lodge operated both in February and March without shutting down.

contain 175 residential building sites and will cover 160 acres. Livingston bank debits in February were down 3% from a year ago but are up 8% for the last 12-month period. A local railroad announced this month that it will cut back 72 jobs in the Livingston area and a planned \$1 million construction program by the railroad firm was temporarily deferred. A total of 36 persons were working in federally funded jobs throughout Park County. The main agricultural activities in the labor market area were calving, lambing and preparation of machinery for field work.

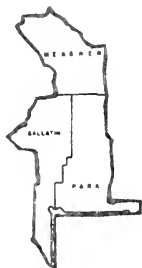
GLASGOW LMA



Glasgow bank debits increased 2% for the twelve-month

period through February, while a decrease was noted during February. One building permit was issued in the city in February, with a total valuation of \$4,000. Contracts with local plumbing, electrical and building contractors show that an above average amount of construction is planned for the coming season with the majority of work expected in the rural areas. A new manufacturing firm opened in Glasgow in December 1974 employing 22 people assembling industrial controls. There was one building permit issued in Wolf Point during February with a valuation of \$1,000. The main agricultural activities during the past month, although being hampered by bad weather, were calving, lambing and feeding.

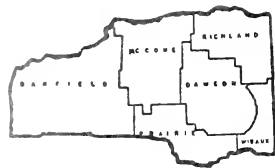
BOZEMAN LMA



Bozeman bank debits volume was 4% higher in February than in the same month a year ago. Twenty-two permits were issued in March this year with a valuation of \$484,831. The city's new shop complex, valued at \$373,481 opened at the beginning of April. In Livingston, development of a housing project will begin early this summer and when completed will

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE MONTANA LABOR MARKET (Cont.)

GLENDIVE LMA

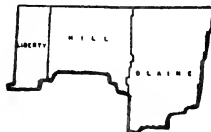


Glendive bank debits for February were 2% higher than they were a year ago at the same time, and are up 14%

for the twelve-month period. Two building permits were issued during February with a total valuation of \$12,000. A major coal company moved its offices to Glendive and officials unveiled several alternate construction sites for dams, reservoirs and water pipelines in the Glendive-Wibaux area. The railroad in the area will start its normal recall with workers expected to work until fall. At Sidney, construction continues on a new swimming pool and a new bank. There was one building permit issued in Sidney in February with a total valuation of \$5,000, while bank debits were down 7% for the month. The main agricultural activities for the month include calving and lambing.

of cultural and athletic events. Another energy company is making definite plans to strip-mine in the Sarpy Creek area, as much of the geological information already has been accumulated and 100 test holes have been drilled in the area. Twenty-five additional holes will be drilled for ground study. At Columbus in Stillwater County, plans for construction of 3 four-plex apartments were released this month.

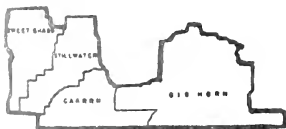
HAVRE LMA



There were six building permits issued in Havre in February with a total valuation of \$249,000. Of the permits, two were for

residential housing for 24 housing units. Bank debits in Havre were up 17% for February, and were up 9% for the first two months of the year. A new city swimming pool is under construction in Chinook with a completion date set for July 31. A new major gas field was discovered in Liberty County in March, with a flow of 5,260,000 cubic feet per day and a capability of upwards of 15,000,000 cubic feet. In agriculture, the main activities have been feeding, calving, lambing, with some preparation of farm equipment. Mud from the heavy snow has halted most exploration drilling, and there has only been a small amount of wholesale and retail trade for the month.

HARDIN-RED LODGE LMA



The Crow Tribal Bicentennial Commission this month proposed a \$7.5 million,

6,000-seat multi-purpose auditorium that could be used year-round for a variety

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE MONTANA LABOR MARKET (Cont.)

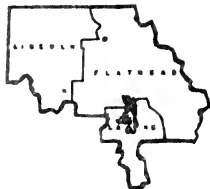
HELENA LMA



Fourteen building permits were issued in Helena during February with a valuation of \$307,000. City plans for development of a 60 acre industrial park near the Helena airport are being

finalized. Estimated cost of the development is just under \$1 million. Montana's livestock export center located at the airport in Helena, will be shipping cattle to a number of agriculturally developing countries. Bids were taken this month on the development of dike construction at Canyon Ferry which will cost upwards of \$600,000. The city of Helena will hire 138 youths this summer under one city & two federal work programs. Retail stores report store sales are down for this time of year. Farm and ranch activities picked up during the month with calls for feeders, irrigators, lambers, calvers, & tractor operators.

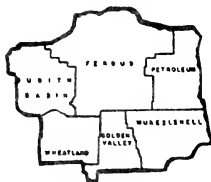
KALISPELL LMA



Construction has started to increase in the area with the arrival of better weather conditions. In Lincoln County, there is

a contract program involving eleven new construction projects with an estimated cost of \$2.6 million. At the end of March, 190 workers were employed at the Libby dam project. A \$200,000 automation project will be started at the sawmill at Fortine

under a five-phase expansion program with production to be increased by 30%. It was announced that a new industry that manufactures backpack & frames and will eventually employ 40 people is moving to Kalispell. By mid-April the area was still experiencing spring breakup. At Columbia Falls the 7 largest employers in the industrial community employ 1,733 persons. Kalispell bank debits were down 10% for the first two months of this year compared to the same time last year. Four building permits were issued in February with a total valuation of \$45,000.



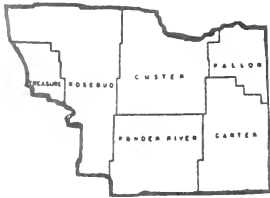
LEWISTOWN LMA

Lewistown's bank debits were up 1% during the 12 months through January but were down 3% in February from the same period a year ago.

There were four building permits issued in February with a total valuation of \$8,000. At Harlowton in Wheatland County the railroad has announced it will cut back 6 jobs. The main agriculture activities in the area during the month included calving, lambing, and seeding.

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE MONTANA LABOR MARKET (Cont.)

MILES CITY LMA

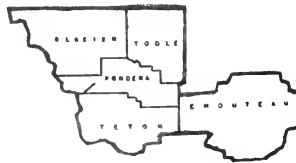


Eleven building permits for a total of \$117,550 were issued in February compared with 18 permits amounting to \$122,338

in 1974 for the same month. In Rosebud County, announcement came this month that \$648,000 was designated in state and federal funds for construction and improvement of highways in the Colstrip area. Also at Forsyth, construction is expected to begin shortly on new additions to Forsyth High School with an expected cost of over \$300,000. Included in the project will be a new vocational-agriculture building and an addition to the existing high school gymnasium. Area ranchers continued with calving and lambing activities throughout the month.

that has been shut down for several weeks. Improved weather conditions have caused an upswing in employment activities in the Bitterroot valley. Increasing signs of good news for the housing industry in Ravalli County were noted as about 40 new homes, scattered throughout the county are in the planning or early building stage. The main agricultural activities in the area include potato sorting and shipping, calving, supplemental feeding and spring field preparation. A sawmill at Trout Creek that had been closed since last fall reopened this month creating 34 jobs.

SHELBY-CUT BANK LMA



Bank debits in Cut Bank were up 7% in February over a year ago and are up 17% over the prior 12 months.

There were two building permits issued in the city during February with a valuation of \$1,000. Adverse weather conditions slowed all outside work. The main activities in the labor market area centered around retail trade and eating places with oilfield activity remaining steady. The main agricultural activities are calving, lambing, and feeding livestock.

MISSOULA LMA



Missoula building permits issued in February totaled 23 with a valuation of \$507,400 as compared with the same month one year ago, with 31 permits and \$623,544 valuation. Bank debits in Missoula in February were up 3% over last year and are up 28% for the first two months of the year.

Between 400 and 500 employees will return in April to a local pulp mill

ANTICIPATED DEVELOPMENTS IN MONTANA'S LABOR FORCE

Montana's economy is expected to have its normal seasonal upswing during the next several months, however it will be somewhat below last year's levels. During the first quarter of 1975, Building Construction employment and Lumber Industry employment was significantly below that of one year ago. Also, a major employer in the Primary Metals Industry will continue to phase out 1500 jobs through 1975 which will have a depressing effect on the State especially in the Butte-Anaconda Labor Market Area. Wholesale, Retail and Service Industries employment is expected to increase mainly in Billings, Bozeman, Great Falls, Helena, Kalispell, and the Missoula areas.

MANPOWER PROGRAM ACTIVITIES

March 1975

<u>Program</u>	<u>New Enrollees</u>	<u>Job Placements</u>	<u>End of Month Enrollment</u>
WIN	443	155	1806
CETA-CEP	150	25	393
CETA-INST.	27	17	312
CETA-OJT	45	24	123
JOB CORPS	33	5	267

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX - U. S.^{1/} (1967 = 100)

<u>Group</u>	<u>Mar. 1975</u>	<u>Percent Change From:</u> <u>Feb. 1975</u>	<u>Mar. 1974</u>
All Items	157.8	0.4%	10.3%

CHARACTERISTICS OF THE UNEMPLOYED^{2/}

March 1975

<u>Social Characteristics</u>	<u>Percent of Total Covered Unemployment</u>
Non-White	2.9%
Female	23.0%
Youth	11.1%
Over 45	25.6%

^{1/} The Consumer Price Index measures changes in prices of goods and services bought by urban wage earners and clerical workers, including families and single persons.

^{2/} Based on 10% sample of Continued Claims filed during the week, including the 19th of each month in all local offices.

Table I

RESIDENCE DATA

MONTANA CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE

NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

in Thousands

Date	Civilian Labor Force	EMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT			Labor Manage- ment Dispute ^{1/}
		Total	Non-Ag	Agri.	Total	#		
						Percent		
					Montana	U. S.		
<u>1973</u>								
January	286.2	261.1	238.7	22.4	25.1	8.8	5.5	.1
February	289.1	265.6	240.3	25.3	23.5	8.1	5.6	*
March	297.6	276.0	245.4	30.6	21.6	7.3	5.2	*
April	303.3	285.1	248.4	36.7	19.2	6.0	4.8	.2
May	309.2	293.7	255.2	38.5	15.5	5.0	4.3	.4
June	326.0	305.7	264.6	41.1	20.3	6.2	5.4	.5
July	329.9	311.6	263.5	48.1	18.3	5.6	5.0	*
August	338.0	321.7	264.4	57.3	16.3	4.8	4.7	.1
September	320.9	305.2	260.1	45.1	15.7	4.9	4.7	.1
October	308.3	292.3	257.4	34.9	16.0	5.2	4.2	.1
November	302.4	283.6	254.2	29.4	18.8	6.2	4.5	*
December	299.5	280.1	254.4	25.7	19.4	6.5	4.5	*
1973 Avg.	309.2	290.1	253.8	36.3	19.1	6.2	4.9	.1
<u>1974</u>								
January	298.1	270.5	245.7	24.8	27.6	9.2	5.6	.1
February	298.2	273.9	249.1	24.8	24.3	8.1	5.7	*
March	308.2	284.8	254.5	30.3	23.4	7.6	5.3	*
April	316.4	295.0	261.0	34.0	21.4	6.8	4.8	*
May	327.8	309.5	270.0	39.5	18.3	5.6	4.6	4.0
June	346.8	322.8	277.7	45.1	24.0	6.9	5.8	2.0
July	347.4	326.4	277.7	48.7	21.0	6.0	5.6	*
August	341.8	323.9	277.9	46.0	17.9	5.3	5.3	.2
September	329.7	312.4	275.6	36.8	17.3	5.2	5.7	*
October	322.3	304.2	269.3	34.9	18.1	5.6	5.5	*
November	319.3	296.9	266.5	30.4	22.4	7.0	6.2	.1
December	315.1	291.0	265.2	25.8	24.1	7.7	6.7	*
1974 Avg.	322.6	301.0	265.9	35.1	21.6	6.7	5.6	*
<u>1975</u>								
January	312.8	283.9	257.1	26.8	28.9	9.3	9.0	*
February	317.3	285.6	256.3	29.3	31.7	10.0	9.1	*
March	326.3	295.0	259.9	35.1	31.3	9.6	9.1	.3
April	334.6	305.6	266.2	39.4	29.0	8.7		-
May								
June								
July								
August								
September								
October								
November								
December								
Avg.								

* Under 50. Current month in italics is a forecast.

Computed from whole (unrounded) numbers.

^{1/} Non-additive - included in total employment.

Previous month preliminary.

Series began January 1970.

Revised to 1974 Benchmarks.

Table II
GREAT FALLS SMSA (CASCADE COUNTY)

Civilian Labor Force
NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED
in thousands

Date	Civilian Labor Force	EMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT			Labor Manage- ment Dispute ^{1/}
		Total	Non-Ag	Agri.	Total	# Percent		
						County	State	
1973								
January	30.1	27.3	26.4	0.9	2.8	9.1	8.8	*
February	30.2	27.6	26.6	1.0	2.6	8.6	8.1	*
March	30.8	28.4	27.2	1.2	2.4	7.7	7.3	*
April	31.6	29.4	28.0	1.4	2.2	6.9	6.0	*
May	32.2	29.9	28.4	1.5	2.3	7.0	5.0	*
June	33.9	30.9	29.3	1.6	3.0	8.9	6.2	0
July	33.6	31.2	29.3	1.9	2.4	7.1	5.6	0
August	33.5	31.5	29.2	2.3	2.0	6.0	4.8	0
September	32.9	30.9	29.1	1.8	2.0	6.2	4.9	*
October	32.1	30.3	28.9	1.4	1.8	5.5	5.2	0
November	31.5	29.5	28.3	1.2	2.0	6.4	6.2	*
December	31.3	29.3	28.3	1.0	2.0	6.4	6.5	*
1973 Avg.	32.0	29.7	28.3	1.4	2.3	7.2	6.2	*
1974								
January	31.5	28.6	27.6	1.0	2.9	9.3	9.2	*
February	31.1	28.7	27.7	1.0	2.4	7.6	8.1	*
March	31.9	29.6	28.3	1.3	2.3	7.2	7.6	*
April	32.3	30.3	28.8	1.5	2.0	6.2	6.8	*
May	32.4	30.4	28.7	1.7	2.0	6.2	5.6	1.4
June	34.1	31.6	29.6	2.0	2.5	7.3	6.9	1.2
July	33.9	31.7	29.5	2.2	2.2	6.4	6.0	*
August	33.8	31.8	29.8	2.0	2.0	5.8	5.3	*
September	33.2	31.3	29.7	1.6	1.9	5.6	5.2	*
October	33.1	31.3	29.8	1.5	1.8	5.5	5.6	*
November	32.1	30.1	28.7	1.4	2.0	6.3	7.0	*
December	32.2	30.1	29.0	1.1	2.1	6.6	7.7	*
1974 Avg.	32.7	30.5	29.0	1.5	2.2	6.7	6.7	*
1975								
January	31.6	29.0	28.0	1.0	2.6	8.4	9.3	*
February	32.2	29.2	28.0	1.2	3.0	9.5	10.0	*
March	32.9	29.9	28.5	1.4	3.0	9.0	9.6	.1
April	33.5	30.7	29.1	1.6	2.8	8.2	8.7	-
May								
June								
July								
August								
September								
October								
November								
December								
Avg.								

*Under 50. Current month in italics is a forecast.

#Computed from whole (unrounded numbers).

^{1/} Non-additive - included in total employment.

Previous month preliminary.

Series began January 1970.

Revised to 1974 Benchmarks.

Table III
BILLINGS SMSA (YELLOWSTONE COUNTY)
Civilian Labor Force
NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED
in thousands

RESIDENCE DATA

Date	Civilian Labor Force	EMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT			Labor Manage- ment Dispute ^{1/}
		Total	Non-Ag	Agri.	Total	# Percent		
						County	State	
1973								
January	40.6	37.9	36.9	1.0	2.7	6.6	8.8	*
February	40.8	38.5	37.4	1.1	2.3	5.5	8.1	*
March	41.5	39.5	38.1	1.4	2.0	4.9	7.3	0
April	42.8	40.9	39.2	1.7	1.9	4.6	6.0	*
May	43.3	41.2	39.4	1.8	2.1	4.7	5.0	*
June	45.5	42.7	40.8	1.9	2.8	6.2	6.2	.3
July	45.3	42.8	40.6	2.2	2.5	5.6	5.6	*
August	45.5	43.2	40.6	2.6	2.3	5.1	4.8	*
September	44.0	42.1	40.0	2.1	1.9	4.4	4.9	*
October	44.5	42.5	40.9	1.6	2.0	4.6	5.2	*
November	44.6	42.4	41.1	1.3	2.2	4.9	6.2	*
December	44.2	42.2	41.0	1.2	2.0	4.4	6.5	*
1973 Avg.	43.5	41.3	39.6	1.7	2.2	5.1	6.2	*
1974								
January	44.0	40.6	39.5	1.1	3.4	7.8	9.2	0
February	43.9	41.3	40.2	1.1	2.6	5.9	8.1	0
March	44.6	42.2	40.6	1.6	2.4	5.4	7.6	0
April	45.1	42.9	41.2	1.7	2.2	4.9	6.8	0
May	45.6	43.6	41.6	2.0	2.0	4.4	5.6	.5
June	48.1	45.0	42.7	2.3	3.1	6.3	6.9	.5
July	47.9	45.4	42.9	2.5	2.5	5.3	6.0	*
August	47.0	44.9	42.5	2.4	2.1	4.4	5.3	*
September	46.1	44.1	42.2	1.9	2.0	4.4	5.2	*
October	46.6	44.7	42.9	1.8	1.9	4.2	5.6	*
November	45.9	43.6	42.0	1.6	2.3	5.0	7.0	*
December	45.8	43.3	42.0	1.3	2.5	5.4	7.7	*
1974 Avg.	45.9	43.5	41.7	1.8	2.4	5.3	6.7	*
1975								
January	44.9	41.4	40.2	1.2	3.5	7.9	9.3	*
February	45.2	41.6	40.3	1.3	3.6	8.0	10.0	*
March	45.6	41.8	40.2	1.6	3.8	8.3	9.6	.1
April	46.0	42.5	40.8	1.7	3.5	7.5	8.7	-
May								
June								
July								
August								
September								
October								
November								
December								
Avg.								

* Under 50. Current month in italics is a forecast.

Computed from whole (unrounded) numbers.

^{1/} Non-additive - included in total employment.

Previous month preliminary.

Series began January 1970.

Revised to 1974 Benchmarks.

MONTANA

Statewide Employment by Industry

MARCH 1975

in Thousands

INDUSTRY	Mar. 1975	Feb. 1975	Mar. 1974	Net Changes to Current Month from:	
				Feb. 1975	Mar. 1974
1. Civilian Labor Force	326.3	317.3	308.2	9.0	18.1
2. Unemployment	31.3	31.7	23.4	-4	7.9
Percent of Labor Force ^{1/2}	9.6	10.0	7.6	-4	2.0
3. Employment, Total	295.0	285.6	284.8	9.4	10.2
(a) Monagricultural Wage and Salary Adjusted for Dual Job Holders (Residence Data)	230.1	227.9	225.6	2.2	4.5

NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARY (Establishment Data) ..	232.1	230.1	225.5	2.0	6.6
MANUFACTURING	22.3	22.7	23.4	-4	-1.1
Durable Goods	14.6	14.7	15.3	-1	-7
24 Lumber and Wood Products	8.2	8.1	9.1	1	-9
33 Primary Metal Industries	3.3	3.4	3.2	-1	1
Other Durable Goods	3.1	3.2	3.0	-1	1
Nondurable Goods	7.7	8.0	8.1	-3	-4
20 Food and Kindred Products	3.4	3.7	3.8	-3	-4
27 Printing and Publishing	2.0	2.0	1.9	0	1
23 Petroleum and Coal Products9	.9	1.0	0	-1
Other Nondurable Goods	1.4	1.4	1.4	0	0
NONMANUFACTURING	209.8	207.4	202.1	2.4	7.7
Mining	7.3	7.2	7.2	1	1
10 Metal Mining	3.7	3.7	4.1	0	-4
12 & 14 Bitum. Coal, Quarrying, Nonmetal Mining ..	1.7	1.6	1.3	1	4
13 Oil and Gas Extraction	1.9	1.9	1.8	0	1

<i>Contract Construction</i>	8.9	8.5	17.5	4	-2.7
15 General Building Contractors	3.8	3.8	4.7	0	-9
16 Heavy Construction Contractors	1.4	1.0	2.5	4	-1.1
17 Special Trade Contractors	3.7	3.7	4.4	0	-7
<i>Transportation and Public Utilities</i>	18.4	18.3	18.8	1	-4
40 Railroad Transportation	6.2	6.1	6.2	1	0
41-47 Transportation, except Railroad	5.0	5.0	5.8	0	-8
48 & 49 Commun., Electric, Gas, Sanitary Services ..	7.2	7.2	6.8	0	.4
<i>Wholesale and Retail Trade</i>	58.5	57.4	56.0	1.1	2.5
<i>Wholesale Trade</i>	12.6	12.6	11.7	0	.9
<i>Retail Trade</i>	45.9	44.8	44.3	1.1	1.6
53 & 56 Ret. Gen. Merch., Apparel, Accessories ..	7.7	7.6	7.5	1	.2
54 Food Stores	6.3	6.4	6.1	-1	.2
55 Automotive Dealers, Service Stations	8.2	8.0	8.3	.2	-1
58 Eating and Drinking Places	14.1	13.3	13.1	.8	1.0
52, 57, 59 Bldg. Mat., Farm Equip., Furn., Misc. .	9.6	9.5	9.3	.1	.3
<i>Finance, Insurance and Real Estate</i>	10.5	10.5	9.8	0	.7
<i>Services</i>	43.8	43.9	41.6	-1	2.2
70 Hotels and other Lodging Places	5.4	5.5	5.2	-1	.2
72 Personal Services	2.8	2.8	2.5	0	.3
80 Medical and other Health Services	13.7	13.9	13.2	-2	.5
Other Services	21.9	21.7	20.7	.2	1.2
<i>Government</i>	62.4	61.6	57.1	.8	5.3
91 Federal Government	11.9	11.9	11.5	0	.4
State and Local Government	50.5	49.7	45.6	.8	4.9
92 State Government	18.3	17.7	17.5	.6	.8
93 Local Government	32.2	32.0	28.1	.2	4.1
(b) All other Nonagricultural Employment ^{2/}	29.8	28.4	28.9	1.4	.9
(c) Agriculture	35.1	29.3	30.3	5.8	4.8
4. Persons involved in labor/management disputes ^{3/}3	*	*	-	-

1/ Computed from whole (unrounded) numbers.

Current month preliminary.

Revised to 1974 Benchmarks.

2/ Includes nonagricultural self-employed and unpaid family workers, and domestic workers in private households.

3/ Non-additive, included in line (a). Establishment Series began January 1964; Residence Series began January 1970.

* Under 50. Introduced in cooperation with U.S. Dept. of Labor Manpower Administration and Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Table V
GREAT FALLS SMSA (CASCADE COUNTY)

Employment by Industry

MARCH 1975

in Thousands

INDUSTRY	Net Changes to Current Month from:				
	Mar. 1975	Feb. 1975	Mar. 1974	Feb. 1975	Mar. 1974
1. Civilian Labor Force	32.9	32.2	31.9	.7	1.0
2. Unemployment	3.0	3.0	2.3	0	.7
Percent of Labor Force#	9.0	9.5	7.2	-.5	1.8
3. Employment, Total	29.9	29.2	29.6	.7	.3
(a) Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Adjusted for Dual Job Holders (Residence Data) ...	26.2	25.8	26.0	.4	.2

NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARY (Establishment Data)	27.2	26.8	26.2	.4	1.0
MANUFACTURING	1.9	1.8	1.9	.1	0
NONMANUFACTURING	25.3	25.0	24.3	.3	1.0
Contract Construction	1.2	1.2	1.4	0	-0.2
Transportation and Public Utilities ...	2.5	2.5	2.3	0	0.2
Wholesale and Retail Trade	8.0	7.8	7.6	0.2	0.4
Finance Insurance and Real Estate ...	1.9	1.9	1.8	0	0.1
Services and Mining	5.6	5.6	5.4	0	0.2
Government	6.1	6.0	5.8	0.1	0.3

(b) All other Nonagricultural Employment ^{1/}	2.3	2.2	2.3	.1	0
(c) Agriculture	1.4	1.2	1.3	.2	.1
4. Persons involved in labor/management disputes ^{2/} ..	.1	*	*	*	*

^{1/} Includes nonagricultural self-employed and unpaid family workers,
and domestic workers in private households.

Computed from whole (unrounded) numbers. * Under 50. Current month preliminary.
Establishment Series began January 1958. Residence Series began January 1974.
Produced in cooperation with U. S. Dept. of Labor Manpower Administration
and Bureau of Labor Statistics. Revised to 1973 Benchmarks.

^{2/} Non-Additive - Included in Line (a).

Table VI
BILLINGS SMSA (YELLOWSTONE COUNTY)

Employment by Industry

MARCH 1975

in Thousands

INDUSTRY				Net Changes to Current Month from:	
	Mar. 1975	Feb. 1975	Mar. 1974	Feb. 1975	Mar. 1974
1 Civilian Labor Force	45.6	45.2	44.6	.4	1.0
2. Unemployment	3.8	3.6	2.4	.2	1.4
<i>Percent of Labor Force#</i>	<i>8.3</i>	<i>8.0</i>	<i>5.4</i>	<i>.3</i>	<i>2.9</i>
3. Employment, Total	41.8	41.6	42.2	.2	-.4
(a) Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Adjusted for Dual Job Holders (Residence Data) ...	36.2	36.4	36.6	-.2	-.4
<hr/>					
<i>NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARY</i> <i>(Establishment Data)</i>	<i>36.3</i>	<i>36.6</i>	<i>36.1</i>	<i>-.3</i>	<i>.2</i>
<i>MANUFACTURING</i>	<i>2.7</i>	<i>3.2</i>	<i>3.3</i>	<i>-.5</i>	<i>-.6</i>
<i>NONMANUFACTURING</i>	<i>33.6</i>	<i>33.4</i>	<i>32.8</i>	<i>.2</i>	<i>.8</i>
<i>Contract Construction</i>	<i>1.7</i>	<i>1.5</i>	<i>2.0</i>	<i>0.2</i>	<i>-0.3</i>
<i>Transportation and Public Utilities</i> ...	<i>3.4</i>	<i>3.4</i>	<i>3.5</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>-0.1</i>
<i>Wholesale and Retail Trade</i>	<i>11.4</i>	<i>11.4</i>	<i>11.4</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>
<i>Finance, Insurance and Real Estate</i>	<i>1.9</i>	<i>1.9</i>	<i>1.8</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0.1</i>
<i>Services and Mining</i>	<i>8.3</i>	<i>8.3</i>	<i>7.6</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0.7</i>
<i>Government</i>	<i>6.9</i>	<i>6.9</i>	<i>6.5</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0.4</i>
<hr/>					
(b) All other Nonagricultural Employment ^{1/}	4.0	3.9	4.0	.1	0
(c) Agriculture	1.6	1.3	1.6	.3	0
4. Persons involved in labor/management disputes ^{2/} .1	*	0	*	.1	

^{1/} Includes nonagricultural self-employed and unpaid family workers, and domestic workers in private households.

Computed from whole (unrounded) numbers * Under 50. Current month preliminary.
Establishment Series began January 1958. Residence Series began January 1974.
Produced in cooperation with U. S. Dept. of Labor Manpower Administration
and Bureau of Labor Statistics. Revised to 1973 Benchmarks.

^{2/} Non-Additive - Included in Line (a).

Table VII

MONTANA LABOR MARKET AREAS^{1/}

Civilian Labor Force

in Thousands

	CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE			EMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT RATE		
	Jan. 1975	Feb. 1975	Mar. 1975	Jan. 1975	Feb. 1975	Mar. 1975	Jan. 1975	Feb. 1975	Mar. 1975	Jan. 1975	Feb. 1975	Mar. 1975
STATEWIDE	312.8	317.3	326.3	283.9	285.6	295.0	28.9	31.7	31.3	9.3	10.0	9.6
GREAT FALLS SMSA	31.6	32.2	32.9	29.0	29.2	29.9	2.6	3.0	3.0	8.4	9.5	9.0
BILLINGS SMSA	44.9	45.2	45.6	41.4	41.6	41.8	3.5	3.6	3.8	7.9	8.0	8.3
BALANCE OF STATE ^{2/}	236.3	239.9	247.8	213.5	214.8	223.3	22.8	25.1	24.5	9.6	10.4	9.9
ANACONDA-BUTTE	33.5	34.1	35.0	30.4	30.6	31.3	3.1	3.5	3.7	9.1	10.3	10.7
BOZEMAN	23.0	23.6	24.2	21.1	21.2	21.9	1.9	2.4	2.3	8.3	10.2	9.4
GLASGOW	14.7	14.9	15.7	13.8	13.9	14.7	.9	1.0	1.0	6.1	6.6	6.2
GLENDIVE	12.3	12.5	13.1	11.6	11.6	12.2	.7	.9	.9	6.0	7.0	6.6
HARDIN-RED LODGE	9.6	9.7	10.1	8.7	8.8	9.2	.9	.9	.9	8.9	9.4	9.4
HAVRE	11.6	11.7	12.2	10.8	10.9	11.4	.8	.8	.8	6.9	7.3	6.5
HELENA	21.2	21.5	21.8	19.5	19.6	20.1	1.7	1.9	1.7	7.9	8.7	7.9
KALISPELL	32.3	32.7	33.8	27.2	27.4	28.4	5.1	5.3	5.4	15.9	16.1	16.0
LEWISTOWN	10.0	10.2	10.9	9.3	9.4	10.2	.7	.8	.7	6.6	7.4	6.9
MILES CITY	12.5	12.6	13.0	11.7	11.7	12.1	.8	.9	.9	6.7	6.8	6.6
MISSOULA	39.8	40.3	40.7	34.6	34.7	35.6	5.2	5.6	5.1	13.1	13.8	12.6
SHELBY-CUT BANK	15.8	16.1	17.3	14.8	15.0	16.2	1.0	1.1	1.1	6.3	7.0	6.3

^{1/} A list of counties included in each Labor Market Area appears on page 29. See map on inside back cover.^{2/} Statewide, excluding Great Falls and Billings Standard Metropolitan Statistical Areas.

TABLE VIII

MONTANA LABOR MARKET AREAS^{1/}

Civilian Labor Force

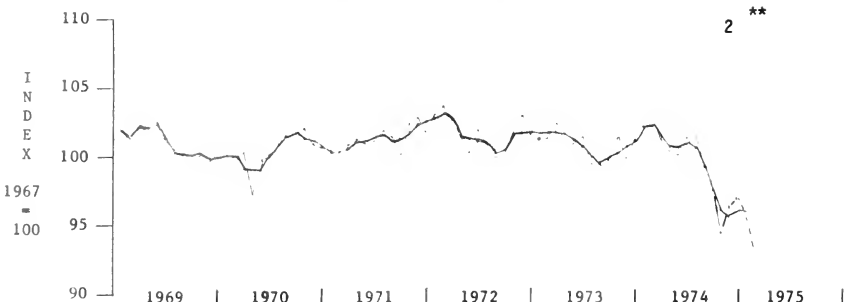
in Thousands

	CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE				EMPLOYMENT				UNEMPLOYMENT				UNEMPLOYMENT RATE			
	Mar. 1975		Mar. 1974		Mar. 1975		Mar. 1974		Mar. 1975		Mar. 1974		Mar. 1975		Mar. 1974	
	326.3	308.2	5.9	Percent Change 1974-1975	295.0	284.8	3.6	Percent Change 1974-1975	31.3	23.4	7.9	Net Change 1974-1975	9.6	7.6	2.0	Net Change 1974-1975
STATEWIDE																
GREAT FALLS SMSA	32.9	31.9	3.1		29.9	29.6	1.0		3.0	2.3	.7		9.0	7.2	1.8	
BILLINGS SMSA	45.6	44.6	2.2		41.8	42.2	-.9		3.8	2.4	1.4		8.3	5.4	2.9	
BALANCE OF STATE ^{2/}	247.8	231.7	6.9		223.3	213.0	4.8		24.5	18.7	5.8		9.9	9.0	1.9	
ANACONDA-BUTTE	35.0	33.6	4.2		31.3	31.4	-.3		3.7	2.2	1.5		10.7	6.7	4.0	
BOZEMAN	24.2	23.4	3.4		21.9	21.8	.5		2.3	1.6	.7		9.4	6.9	2.5	
GLASGOW	15.7	14.6	7.5		14.7	13.7	7.3		1.0	.9	.1		6.2	5.9	.3	
GLENDALE	13.1	12.2	7.4		12.2	11.5	6.1		.9	.7	.2		6.6	5.5	1.1	
HARDIN-RED LODGE	10.1	10.3	-1.9		9.2	9.4	-2.1		.9	.9	0		9.4	8.7	.7	
HAVRE	12.2	10.9	11.9		11.4	10.2	11.8		.8	.7	.1		6.5	6.6	-.1	
HELENA	21.8	21.1	3.3		20.1	19.6	2.6		1.7	1.5	.2		7.9	6.9	1.0	
KALISPELL	33.8	30.6	10.5		28.4	26.4	7.6		5.4	4.2	1.2		16.0	13.7	2.3	
LEWISTOWN	10.9	9.8	11.2		10.2	9.1	12.1		.7	.7	0		6.9	7.3	-.4	
MILES CITY	13.0	12.3	5.7		12.1	11.6	4.3		.9	.7	.2		6.6	5.6	1.0	
MISSOULA	40.7	38.0	7.1		35.6	34.7	2.6		5.1	3.3	1.8		12.6	8.6	4.0	
SHELBY-CUT BANK	17.3	14.9	16.1		16.2	13.6	19.1		1.1	1.3	-.2		6.3	9.0	-2.7	

^{1/} A list of counties included in each Labor Market Area appears on page 29. See map on inside back cover.^{2/} Statewide, excluding Great Falls and Billings Standard Metropolitan Statistical Areas.

ECONOMIC INDICATORS

COMPOSITE INDEX OF SIX LEADING INDICATORS*



Composite Index of
SIX LEADING INDICATORS
1967 = 100

MONTANA'S COMPOSITE INDEX

1974

January	102.7
February	103.0
March	101.4
April	100.6
May	100.3
June	101.6
July	101.5
August	99.4
September	97.7
October	94.3
November	96.1
December	96.9

1975

January	95.8
February	93.5 ^p
March	
April	
May	
June	
July	
August	
September	
October	
November	
December	

According to preliminary estimates, February has reached an all-time low of 93.5 since the Composite Index series began in 1965. This was mainly attributed to the increase in average weekly initial claims and a decrease in the number of building permits from January. Layoffs was the lone component displaying positive trends, but a continuing decrease in average weekly hours and manufacturing employment obscure this trend. With the summer season approaching and national economic policies being put into effect, the index could begin to recover over the next several months.

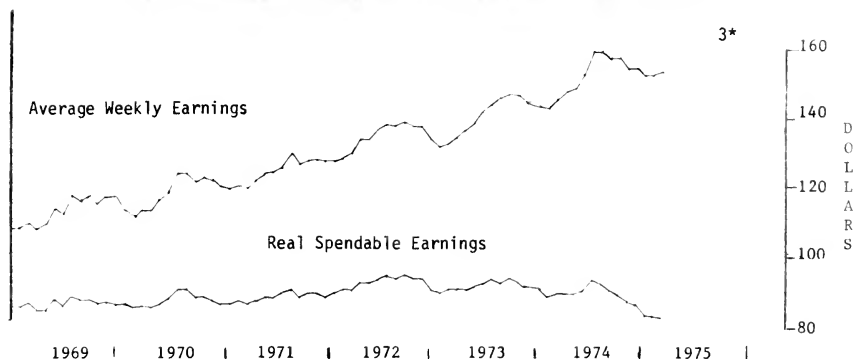
In the graph above the solid line is a three-month moving average which removes irregular effects and more clearly shows the cyclical trend.

* Employment, Average Weekly Hours, Total Accessions, and Layoffs in Manufacturing; Building Permits, and Average Weekly Initial Unemployment Insurance Claims.

** Indicates last month of plotted data.

p: Preliminary.

REAL SPENDABLE AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS OF PRIVATE NONAGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION WORKERS (1967 DOLLARS)



	Mar. 1975	Feb. 1975	Mar. 1974
Gross Average Weekly Earnings	\$153.29	\$152.80	\$145.20
Taxes Withheld	22.69	22.48	20.63
Spendable Earnings	130.60	130.33	124.56
Adjustment for Price Changes Since 1967	47.83	47.43	37.52
Real Spendable Earnings in 1967 Dollars	82.77	82.90	87.04

	Average Weekly Earnings ^{1/}	Real Spendable Earnings ^{2/}
1974		
Jan.	\$143.47	\$88.29
Feb.	142.96	86.96
Mar.	145.20	87.04
Apr.	147.29	87.65
May	148.47	87.31
Jun.	152.21	88.35
Jul.	159.90	91.50
Aug.	159.84	90.31
Sep.	157.38	88.10
Oct.	157.75	87.46
Nov.	154.94	85.40
Dec.	154.28	84.52

Due to a March increase in average weekly hours and to a February increase in average hourly earnings, March and February gross average weekly earnings both showed improvements over their respective previous months' data. In monetary terms, weekly earnings rose to \$153.29 in March from \$152.80 in February and from \$152.28 in January. However, real spendable earnings at \$82.77 in March, compared to \$82.90 in February, lost ground for the eighth straight month, despite a declining inflation rate.

1975		
Jan.	152.28	83.19
Feb.	152.80 ^p	82.90 ^p
Mar.	153.29 ^p	82.77 ^p
Apr.		
May		
Jun.		

* Indicates last month of plotted data.

p: Preliminary.

^{1/} Average weekly earnings of total private nonagricultural production workers.

^{2/} Real spendable average weekly earnings of private nonagricultural production workers.

MONTANA CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE

SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

in Thousands

Date	Civilian Labor Force	EMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT			Labor Manage- ment Dispute ^{1/}
		Total	Non-Ag	Agri.	Total	Percent		
						Montana	U. S.	
1973								
January	303.1	283.5	250.4	33.1	19.6	6.5	5.0	.1
February	304.8	286.1	251.5	34.6	18.7	6.1	5.1	*
March	306.7	288.7	253.0	35.7	18.0	5.9	5.0	*
April	305.6	287.4	252.6	34.8	18.2	6.0	5.0	.2
May	307.0	288.2	252.7	35.5	18.8	6.1	5.0	.4
June	307.2	287.1	254.7	32.4	20.1	6.5	4.8	.5
July	309.1	289.7	252.4	37.3	19.4	6.3	4.7	*
August	315.4	296.2	253.4	42.8	19.2	6.1	4.8	.1
September	313.9	294.6	254.9	39.7	19.3	6.1	4.8	.1
October	313.3	293.7	256.3	37.4	19.6	6.3	4.5	.1
November	311.6	292.2	256.4	35.8	19.4	6.2	4.7	*
December	312.8	294.4	258.4	36.0	18.4	5.9	4.8	*
1973 Avg.	309.2	290.1	253.8	36.3	19.1	6.2	4.9	.1
1974								
January	315.1	293.2	257.5	35.7	21.9	7.0	5.2	.1
February	314.2	294.7	260.4	34.3	19.5	6.2	5.2	*
March	317.1	297.2	261.8	35.4	19.9	6.3	5.1	*
April	318.6	297.2	265.1	32.1	21.4	6.7	5.0	*
May	325.5	303.9	267.3	36.6	21.6	6.6	5.2	4.0
June	327.8	304.1	267.9	36.2	23.7	7.2	5.2	2.0
July	326.6	304.6	266.5	38.1	22.0	6.7	5.3	*
August	319.2	298.4	267.0	31.4	20.8	6.5	5.4	.2
September	322.6	301.7	270.5	31.2	20.9	6.5	5.8	*
October	327.3	305.6	268.1	37.5	21.7	6.6	6.0	*
November	328.5	305.5	268.7	36.8	23.0	7.0	6.6	.1
December	328.2	305.1	269.1	36.0	23.1	7.0	7.2	*
1974 Avg.	322.6	301.0	265.9	35.1	21.6	6.7	5.6	*
1975								
January	329.8	306.6	268.9	37.7	23.2	7.0	8.2	*
February	333.4	306.4	267.7	38.7	27.0	8.1	8.2	*
March	335.2	307.3	267.3	40.0	27.9	8.3	8.7	.3
April								
May								
June								
July								
August								
September								
October								
November								
December								
Avg.								

* Under 50. Current month preliminary.

Revised to 1974 Benchmarks.

^{1/} Non-additive - included in total employment.

NOTE: Seasonally adjusted data are provided for statistical analysis only and should not be confused with actual numbers.

RESIDENCE DATA

Table X
GREAT FALLS SMSA (CASCADE COUNTY)
Civilian Labor Force
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED
in Thousands

Date	Civilian Labor Force	EMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT			Labor Management Dispute ^{1/}
		Total	Non-Ag	Agri.	Total	Percent		
						County	State	
1973								
January	31.4	29.1	27.7	1.4	2.3	7.3	6.5	*
February	31.5	29.2	27.7	1.5	2.3	7.3	6.1	*
March	31.5	29.2	27.8	1.4	2.3	7.3	5.9	*
April	31.6	29.3	28.0	1.3	2.3	7.3	6.0	*
May	32.1	29.6	28.2	1.4	2.5	7.8	6.1	*
June	32.3	29.6	28.3	1.3	2.7	8.4	6.5	0
July	32.4	30.0	28.4	1.6	2.4	7.4	6.3	0
August	32.4	30.2	28.6	1.6	2.2	6.8	6.1	0
September	32.2	30.0	28.5	1.5	2.2	6.8	6.1	*
October	32.3	30.2	28.8	1.4	2.1	6.5	6.3	0
November	32.1	29.9	28.5	1.4	2.2	6.9	6.2	*
December	32.0	29.9	28.5	1.4	2.1	6.6	5.9	*
1973 Avg.	32.0	29.7	28.3	1.4	2.3	7.2	6.2	*
1974								
January	32.8	30.3	28.8	1.5	2.5	7.6	7.0	*
February	32.4	30.3	28.8	1.5	2.1	6.5	6.2	*
March	32.6	30.4	28.9	1.5	2.2	6.7	6.3	*
April	32.4	30.2	28.8	1.4	2.2	6.8	6.7	*
May	32.4	30.2	28.6	1.6	2.2	6.8	6.6	1.4
June	32.5	30.3	28.7	1.6	2.2	6.8	7.2	1.2
July	32.6	30.5	28.7	1.8	2.1	6.4	6.7	*
August	32.6	30.5	29.1	1.4	2.1	6.4	6.5	*
September	32.5	30.5	29.2	1.3	2.0	6.2	6.5	*
October	33.2	31.1	29.5	1.6	2.1	6.3	6.6	*
November	32.7	30.5	28.9	1.6	2.2	6.7	7.0	*
December	32.8	30.6	29.1	1.5	2.2	6.7	7.0	*
1974 Avg.	32.7	30.5	29.0	1.5	2.2	6.7	6.7	*
1970								
January	32.9	30.7	29.1	1.6	2.2	6.7	7.0	*
February	33.5	30.8	29.1	1.7	2.7	8.1	8.1	*
March	33.7	30.8	29.2	1.6	2.9	8.6	8.3	.1
April								
May								
June								
July								
August								
September								
October								
November								
December								
Avg.								

* Under 50.

Current month preliminary.

Revised to 1974 Benchmarks.

^{1/} Non-additive - included in total employment.

Series began January 1970.

NOTE: Seasonally adjusted data are provided for statistical analysis only and should not be confused with actual numbers.

Table XI
BILLINGS SMSA (YELLOWSTONE COUNTY)
Civilian Labor Force
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED
in Thousands

RESIDENCE DATA

Date	Civilian Labor Force	EMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT			Labor Manage- ment Dispute ^{1/}
		Total	Non-Ag	Agri.	Total	Percent		
						County	State	
1973								
January	42.1	39.9	38.5	1.4	2.2	5.2	6.6	*
February	42.1	40.2	38.7	1.5	1.9	4.5	6.1	*
March	42.4	40.7	39.1	1.6	1.7	4.0	5.9	0
April	43.3	41.1	39.4	1.7	2.2	5.1	6.0	*
May	43.4	41.0	39.4	1.6	2.4	5.5	6.1	*
June	43.9	41.3	39.8	1.5	2.6	5.9	6.5	.3
July	43.9	41.4	39.8	1.6	2.5	5.7	6.3	*
August	44.8	42.3	40.1	2.2	2.5	5.6	6.1	*
September	44.1	41.9	40.1	1.8	2.2	5.0	6.1	*
October	44.1	41.7	40.0	1.7	2.4	5.4	6.3	*
November	44.3	42.0	40.4	1.6	2.3	5.2	6.2	*
December	44.3	42.5	40.8	1.7	1.8	4.1	5.9	*
1973 Avg.	43.5	41.3	39.6	1.7	2.2	5.1	6.2	*
1974								
January	45.4	42.5	41.0	1.5	2.9	6.4	7.0	0
February	45.1	42.9	41.4	1.5	2.2	4.9	6.2	0
March	45.5	43.4	41.7	1.7	2.1	4.6	6.3	0
April	45.6	43.1	41.4	1.7	2.5	5.5	6.7	0
May	45.8	43.4	41.5	1.9	2.4	5.2	6.6	.5
June	46.4	43.6	41.6	2.0	2.8	6.0	7.2	.5
July	46.6	44.1	42.1	2.0	2.5	5.4	6.7	*
August	46.2	44.0	42.0	2.0	2.2	4.8	6.5	*
September	46.2	43.9	42.3	1.6	2.3	5.0	6.5	*
October	46.2	43.9	42.0	1.9	2.3	5.0	6.6	*
November	45.6	43.2	41.4	1.8	2.4	5.3	7.0	*
December	45.8	43.5	41.7	1.8	2.3	5.0	7.0	*
1974 Avg.	45.9	43.5	41.7	1.8	2.4	5.3	6.7	*
1975								
January	46.5	43.4	41.8	1.6	3.1	6.7	7.0	*
February	46.5	43.2	41.5	1.7	3.3	7.1	8.1	*
March	46.4	43.0	41.2	1.8	3.4	7.3	8.3	.1
April								
May								
June								
July								
August								
September								
October								
November								
December								
Avg.								

* Under 50. Current month preliminary.

^{1/} Non-additive - included in Total Employment.

Revised to 1974 Benchmarks.
Series began January 1970.

NOTE: Seasonally adjusted data are provided for statistical analysis only and should not be confused with actual numbers.

Table XII

MONTANA HOURS AND EARNINGS

For Private Nonagricultural Industries

MARCH 1975

	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	Mar. 1975	Feb. 1975	Mar. 1974	Mar. 1975	Feb. 1975	Mar. 1974	Mar. 1975	Feb. 1975	Mar. 1974
TOTAL PRIVATE	\$153.29	\$152.80	\$145.20	35.9	35.7	36.3	\$4.27	\$4.28	\$4.00
MANUFACTURING	192.10	187.31	182.40	36.8	36.3	38.0	5.22	5.16	4.80
Durable Goods	186.22	183.60	180.40	36.3	36.0	37.9	5.13	5.10	4.76
Primary Metal Industries	233.11	234.09	197.31	40.4	40.5	39.7	5.77	5.78	4.97
Nondurable Goods	208.03	196.79	187.78	38.1	37.2	38.4	5.46	5.29	4.89
Food and Kindred Products	205.25	190.90	178.25	39.7	39.2	39.7	5.17	4.87	4.49
MINING	249.87	247.83	222.26	41.3	41.1	41.7	6.05	6.03	5.33
Metal Mining	249.01	249.01	215.28	39.4	39.4	39.5	6.32	6.32	5.45
CONTRACT CONSTRUCTION	258.72	257.85	244.72	33.6	33.4	36.8	7.70	7.72	6.65
TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC UTILITIES	244.28	247.13	236.74	41.9	42.1	42.2	5.83	5.87	5.61
Communications, Electric, Gas, Sanitary Services	201.63	199.16	179.33	39.0	38.3	38.9	5.17	5.20	4.61
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL TRADE	120.39	120.76	114.99	35.1	34.8	35.6	3.43	3.47	3.23
FINANCE, INSURANCE, AND REAL ESTATE	116.97	117.66	107.22	36.9	37.0	36.1	3.17	3.18	2.97
SERVICES	103.64	103.64	89.60	32.9	32.9	32.7	3.15	31.5	2.74

Data for current month are preliminary.

Averages are based on gross earnings, including overtime and premium pay.

Selected Industries series began January 1950; Total Private Sector series began January 1969 (May 1972 issue). Prepared by U. S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Table XIII

MONTANA LABOR TURNOVER RATES
In Manufacturing and Mining Industries
(per 100 employees)
 FEBRUARY 1975

	ACCESSION RATES						SEPARATION RATES					
	Total			New Hires			Total			Quits		
	Feb. 1975	Jan. 1975	Feb. 1974	Feb. 1975	Jan. 1975	Feb. 1974	Feb. 1975	Jan. 1975	Feb. 1974	Feb. 1975	Jan. 1975	Feb. 1974
MANUFACTURING	2.0	2.4	3.6	0.9	0.7	2.5	3.5	5.4	4.0	0.7	1.0	1.4
Durable Goods	2.5	3.0	2.3	1.0	0.4	1.6	3.6	6.3	2.7	0.9	1.0	1.6
Primary Metal Industries	0.4	1.2	2.1	0.1	0.0	1.1	3.5	2.5	2.3	0.4	0.8	1.3
Nondurable Goods	1.0	1.4	2.6	0.6	1.3	2.0	3.4	3.5	2.2	0.5	1.2	0.8
MINING	2.2	1.8	4.6	0.7	1.3	2.2	2.3	3.0	4.1	0.8	1.4	1.3
Metal Mining	1.0	1.0	4.7	0.0	0.0	1.1	2.0	3.3	4.9	0.4	0.7	1.5

* Less than .05.
 Prepared by U. S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.
 Series began January 1959.

NEW BUSINESS FIRMS IN MONTANA

New business firms in Montana are a reflection of economic activity within the business community. Data furnished on this page and the following page are an aggregate of information supplied by the office of the Montana Secretary of State and the Montana Employment Security Division. These data should in no way be construed as being absolute. They are presented to indicate business trends during the survey period.

The chart on the following page is a break-down by county and labor market area of business starts during the month of March 1975.

The following chart is a break-down of new businesses in Montana by industry in March.

<u>INDUSTRY</u>	<u>NUMBER</u>
AGRICULTURE, FORESTRY, AND FISHERIES	21
MINING	3
CONTRACT CONSTRUCTION	20
MANUFACTURING	4
TRANSPORTATION, COMMUNICATION, ELECTRIC, GAS, AND SANITARY SERVICES	5
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL TRADE	34
FINANCE, INSURANCE, AND REAL ESTATE	11
SERVICES	54
	<hr/>
TOTAL	152

MONTANA LABOR MARKET AREAS

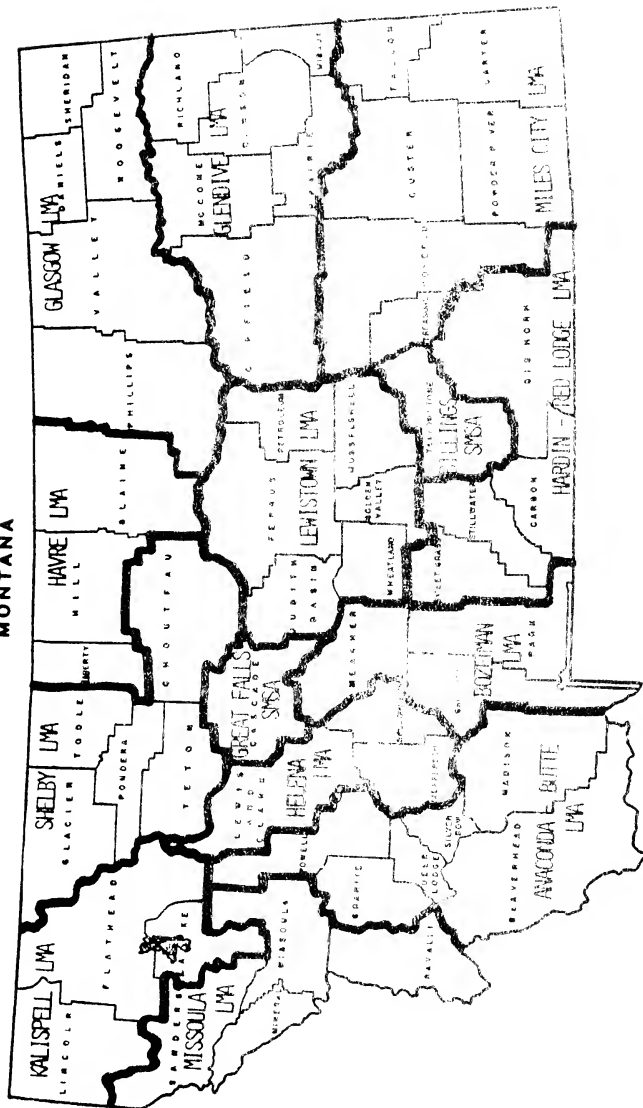
WITH COUNTIES INCLUDED IN EACH AREA

March 1975 - 152 Total New Firms

<u>Areas</u>	<u>New Business Firms</u>	<u>Areas</u>	<u>New Business Firms</u>
<u>GREAT FALLS SMSA</u>		<u>BILLINGS SMSA</u>	
Cascade	23	Yellowstone	24
-----		-----	
<u>ANACONDA-BUTTE LMA</u>	10	<u>HELENA LMA</u>	6
Beaverhead	1	Broadwater	0
Deer Lodge	0	Jefferson	0
Granite	0	Lewis and Clark	6
Madison	1		
Powell	1	<u>KALISPELL LMA</u>	13
Silver Bow	7	Flathead	9
		Lake	3
<u>BOZEMAN LMA</u>	14	Lincoln	1
Gallatin	12		
Meagher	0	<u>LEWISTOWN LMA</u>	4
Park	2	Fergus	2
		Golden Valley	0
<u>GLASGOW LMA</u>	3	Judith Basin	0
Daniels	1	Musselshell	1
Phillips	0	Petroleum	0
Roosevelt	1	Wheatland	1
Sheridan	0		
Valley	1	<u>MILES CITY LMA</u>	10
		Carter	0
<u>GLENDALE LMA</u>	4	Custer	8
Dawson	3	Fallon	1
Garfield	1	Powder River	0
McCone	0	Rosebud	1
Prairie	0	Treasure	0
Richland	0		
Wibaux	0	<u>MISSOULA LMA</u>	22
		Mineral	1
<u>HARDIN-RED LODGE LMA</u>	8	Missoula	16
Big Horn	3	Ravalli	4
Carbon	3	Sanders	1
Stillwater	0		
Sweet Grass	2	<u>SHELBY LMA</u>	5
		Chouteau	0
<u>HAVRE LMA</u>	6	Glacier	0
Blaine	2	Pondera	3
Hill	4	Teton	2
Liberty	0	Toole	0

Source of Data: State of Montana Employment Security Division, Research and Analysis Section; Montana Secretary of State.

IN
MONTANA



EMPLOYMENT SECURITY DIVISION
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND INDUSTRY
P. O. Box 1728
Helena, Montana 59601

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OFFICIAL BUSINESS

Mr. Joe Kasparick
Montana College of Mineral
Science & Technology
Butte, Montana 59701

The Montana State Employment Service maintains 23 local employment offices in the principal cities of Montana. You are invited to call on any of these offices for assistance in filling positions in your organization, additional labor market information, and for other services in connection with your employment problems.